

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An electromagnetic radiation delivery apparatus for skin treatment, the apparatus comprising:

a housing;

a radiation delivery head in the housing for having a source of electromagnetic radiation;

an emission window ~~which is in the housing for~~ optically ~~coupled-coupling~~ to the source of electromagnetic radiation and ~~is being~~ able to emit the electromagnetic radiation;

a recess in the housing which is open on one side; and

vacuum means in the housing for lowering a pressure inside the recess; and,

~~wherein the apparatus further comprises a~~ pressure gauge in the housing for measuring a pressure inside the recess.

2. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1,

further comprising a control means connected to the pressure gauge and to the source of electromagnetic radiation, wherein the control means ~~are~~ is able to prevent the source of electromagnetic radiation from emitting electromagnetic radiation when the pressure measured by the pressure gauge is higher than a predetermined threshold value.

3. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the threshold value is from 10 to 250 mbar below ambient pressure.

4. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein during a period of time in which the measured pressure inside the recess is below the threshold value, the control means ~~prevent~~ prevents the electromagnetic radiation source from emitting electromagnetic radiation above a predetermined maximum amount of energy.

5. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the control means ~~comprise~~ comprises a shutter that is able

to prevent emission of the electromagnetic radiation.

6. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an emission window is present in the recess.

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a recess surrounds the emission window.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recess comprises a circumferential edge.

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the circumferential edge is flexibly deformable.

10. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the circumferential edge lies on a plane surface, on a concave surface or on a convex surface.

11. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the electromagnetic radiation comprises infrared radiation,

visible optical radiation or ultraviolet radiation.

12. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the source of electromagnetic radiation comprises electromagnetic radiation generating means and electromagnetic radiation guiding means optically connected thereto.

13. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the electromagnetic radiation guiding means comprise a mirror, a hollow electromagnetic radiation guide or an optical fiber.

14. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the source of electromagnetic radiation comprises a laser, a flash lamp, a LED, a gas discharge lamp or an incandescent lamp.

15. (New) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the vacuum means includes a pump for pumping air through a vacuum outlet coupled to the emission window and an exhaust tube coupled to the environment.